

BioPreferred®

BioBuzzGov

Promoting the use and purchase of biobased products in Federal agencies

President Biden Releases New Executive Order!



New EO advances innovation in the bioeconomy and promotes biobased products

September 12, 2022 marked a major milestone for those in biotechnology and biomaterials, as President Biden signed a new [Executive Order](#) (EO) 14081 to advance innovation for a sustainable, safe and secure American bioeconomy and promote the purchase of biobased products.

This far-reaching EO is designed to drive opportunities to grow the U.S. bioeconomy and workforce and improve the quality of our lives and environment by advancing biotechnology and biomaterials. Objectives include driving innovations in biotechnology and agriculture, strengthening supply chains, expanding U.S. biomaterials capacity, improving food security, reducing the impact of climate change on America's families, and encouraging the purchase and use of biobased products.

According to an Administration official, biotechnology "enables us to reinvent America's supply chains, transitioning away from chemicals that rely on oil towards cleaner, safer and more reliable alternatives that we make right here at home."

Section Six, Biobased Products Procurement, directs federal agencies to give high priority to the purchase and use of biobased products through multiple acquisition processes including contracts, purchase cards, and the procurement of supplies. Federal agency reporting requirements for both the direct procurement of biobased products and through service and construction contracts are detailed.

The USDA BioPreferred® Program is eager to support this directive and elevate our mission.

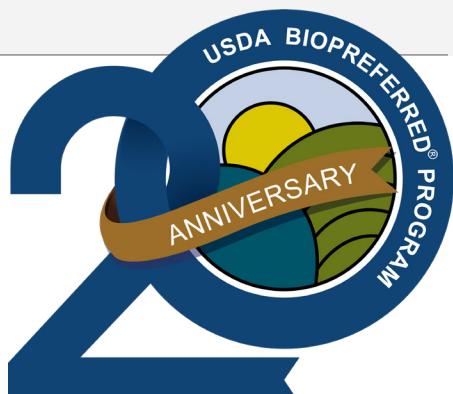
Stay tuned for further information!

It's Our 20th Anniversary!

The BioPreferred Program is celebrating 20 years as the Federal Government's official advocate and market accelerator for biobased products.

While the Program has accomplished a lot since it was established in the 2002 Farm Bill, we're even more excited by the momentum and growth we see in the bioeconomy and its prospects for the future. Here's what we're seeing:

- Over 7,000 products in our catalog eligible for federal purchasing preference across 139 product categories.
- Increased reporting of biobased purchases by federal contractors.



- Continued increase in applications for certification.
- Over 6,200 USDA Certified Biobased Products.
- Over 80% of new service and construction solicitations reviewed include the requirement to use biobased products.
- Participation from businesses in 47 countries and more than 1,500 companies in the U.S.
- **A 536% increase in certification of upstream materials from 2015 to 2022!**
This includes binders, chemicals, cleaner components, fibers and fabrics, foams, lubricants, oils, fats and waxes, paint and coating compounds, personal care products components, plastic resins, rubber materials, and textile processing materials.

To mark this major milestone, the BioPreferred Program has big plans for the next few months. We'll be working closely with participants and stakeholders alike to celebrate the last two decades and discuss the Program's future. Some key items to keep an eye out for:

- Excellence in Biobased Procurement Awards Ceremony
- Special BioBuzzGov Issue on our 20th Anniversary
- BIG announcements coming soon!

Please follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for regular updates on the Program and our 20th Anniversary celebration.



If You're Not Including Mandatory Clauses, You Might be Seeing "Red"

Contract reviews can lead to "Green" on OMB's Sustainable Acquisition Scorecard

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) maintains an annual scorecard for federal sustainability including acquisition. Each federal agency is assessed on sustainable acquisition efforts and their use of mandatory clauses for the purchase of biobased, energy-efficient, recycled content and other sustainable attributes, with changes noted from the prior year's performance.

OMB collects this data from the 8L (Environmental Considerations) field in the Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation (FPDS-NG). Specifically, each agency receives a Green, Yellow, or Red score based on:

- The number of applicable contract actions with sustainable clauses this Fiscal Year (FY) compared to last;
- The value of applicable contract actions with sustainable clauses this FY compared to the last.

When reviewing contracts for compliance with the requirement to give preference to the purchase of biobased products, two things matter:

1. Clause 52.223-2 – *Affirmative Procurement of Biobased Products Under Service and Construction Contracts* must be included in the solicitation/contract.
2. One of the following codes must be entered into the 8L field of FPDS-NG when the contract is awarded.

Conducting contract reviews to ensure mandatory clauses are included is a sure path to Greener acquisitions!

Recovered Materials/Sustainability 8L Codes That Include Biobased

Code*	Description
E	52.223-2 (bio-based)
H	FAR 52.223-4 (recovered material) ; FAR 52.223-2 (bio-based)
J	FAR 52.223-4 (recovered material) ; FAR 52.223-2 (bio-based); 52.233-15 (energy efficient)
K	FAR 52.223-4 (recovered material) ; FAR 52.223-2 (bio-based); Environmentally Preferable
L	FAR 52.223-4 (recovered material) ; FAR 52.223-2 (bio-based); FAR 52.233-15 (energy efficient); Environmentally Preferable

Biobased Category Spotlight: Cleaning Products

Keep Your Workplace Free of Germs This Flu Season

As flu season begins, it's time to take extra care to keep workplaces clean and germ-free. One of the best ways to do that is by regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces – like stair rails, counters, elevator buttons, door handles, and conference tables. The [BioPreferred Program Catalog](#) features



a variety of biobased cleaning products, including bathroom cleaners, all-purpose disinfectants, surface wipes and even carpet, furniture and floor cleaners. All are eligible for federal procurement and enable your agency to meet biobased product purchasing requirements. Check out the BioPreferred Program Catalog [here](#) to find products for fighting germs in your workplace this flu season!

Is There a Biobased Category for That?

Want to see what biobased product categories have been designated by the USDA for the type of solicitation you're working on? Check out our two-page [Functional Categories infographic](#) to see the biobased products required by each solicitation type.

If your solicitation requires a category of biobased products, you can copy and paste [sample contract language from our website](#) to get the job done!



Meet Some Sustainability Superstars!

In reviewing new service and construction solicitations for FY 2022, we want to recognize and thank Contracting Officers and Contracting Specialists who are achieving high standards by including biobased product purchasing requirements in their solicitations.

- Shelton Beasley – VA
- Tanya Browning – Interior
- Joseph Covarrubio – USDA
- Mario Garcia – USDA
- Benjamin Goodlad – USDA
- Christiana Graves – USDA
- Melissa Grice – USDA
- Lynn Hults – USDA
- Dyllan Iial - USDA
- Craig Madison – Interior
- Natalie Oslund – Interior
- Tanya Spanfellner – USDA
- Catherine Sullivan – USDA
- Danielle Wolz – USDA

We applaud their important efforts to create a more sustainable government!

What Kinds of Biobased Products did your Agency Purchase?

This graphic shows contractor-reported biobased product purchasing by agency and category as reported in the SAM for FY2021. Ideally, every agency would report biobased product purchasing in each of these categories (as applicable).

AGENCY	Construction/ Renovation/ Road & Street/ Parking Lots	Groundskeeping/ Facilities (O&M)	Food Service	Personal Care	Janitorial/Custodial	Industrial	Fleet/Transportation	Office/Shipping	Household	Industrial Lubricants	Miscellaneous
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS	✓										
AGRICULTURE	✓	✓						✓	✓	✓	
COMMERCE	✓	✓								✓	
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION											
DEFENSE	✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	
EDUCATION	✓										
ENERGY								✓			
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY	✓	✓	✓								
GENERAL SERVICES	✓	✓	✓								
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	✓	✓	✓								✓
HOMELAND SECURITY	✓	✓	✓								
INTERIOR	✓	✓	✓								
JUSTICE	✓										
LABOR			✓	✓				✓		✓	
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE	✓										
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS											
SOCIAL SECURITY	✓										
TRANSPORTATION	✓	✓									
VETERANS AFFAIRS	✓	✓									✓

Don't forget to report your FY2022 purchases by October 31st!

Have a Success Story You'd Like to Share?

Or content you'd find helpful in BioBuzzGov? Send an email to: [Vernell Thompson](mailto:Vernell.Thompson@usda.gov).

Share BioBuzzGov with a Fed Gov Friend!

Know a colleague or teammate who wants to learn more about purchasing biobased products?

Share this issue and let them know they can [subscribe](#) to BioBuzzGov!

New Products Spotlight

What's New? The BioPreferred Program has certified more than 450 biobased products since our last issue of BioBuzzGov! Below are a few of the products we recently added to our catalog.

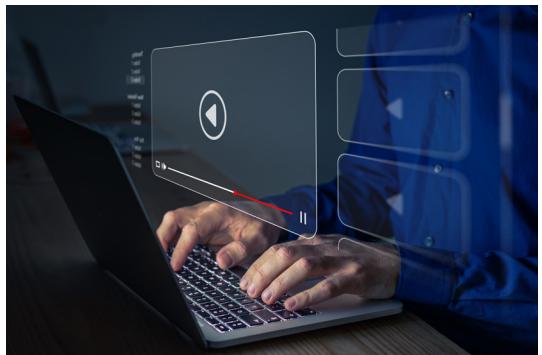
- Cafeteria supplies like NoTree® Hot Cups and Lids and Hefty® Diamond® Paper Plates.
- Biobased office products! Blue Lake ECOLIFE™ Translucent Tape.



- Janitorial and maintenance products: Citrus-Scrub® Graffiti Remover, Colorbiotics® Asphalt Restorers, SpartaMax - SpartaBrake Brake & Metal Parts Cleaner, SpartaMax-449 Aircraft & Metal Surface Cleaner, and AlphaGrade™ Roof Coating.
- Construction products including Cardinal Acoustics panels, Emerald® Urethane Trim Enamel paint from Sherwin-Williams, Tuflex® Force Rubber Flooring, and HempWood® Natural Flooring.

New Web-Based Training for COs and CORs

If you haven't yet, check out our new web-based training course: [Incorporating Biobased Purchasing and Reporting Requirements in Federal Service and Construction Contracts](#). This new web-based training is designed to enable Contracting Officers (COs) and Contracting Officer Representatives (CORs) to boost their sustainable acquisition efforts. Through engaging video, narration, and interactivity, participants learn how to incorporate biobased requirements into solicitations and oversee contractor reporting of purchases in SAM. (1.5 CLPs)



Here's Where We'll Be This Fall

As the Fiscal Year ends and a new one begins, many industry conferences and events are being held in-person once again. The BioPreferred Program is excited to exhibit and present at:

- **October 25-27 – Energy Exchange 2022** at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, OH. We'll be exhibiting industrial samples of biobased products.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) for updates. If you're planning to attend any of these events, please stop by our booth!